

# STATISTICS: Dalits in Bangladesh

## Population

No official figures, but according to unofficial estimate the number is approximately 6.5 million.

## Equality and participation

In rural areas, 89 % of Dalits use shared latrines, mostly without roofs.<sup>i</sup>

In urban Dalit colonies, 84 people, on average, have to share one water point.<sup>ii</sup>

In the same colonies, there is one latrine per 40 people.<sup>iii</sup>

21 % of Dalits face discrimination in getting medication from hospitals.<sup>iv</sup>

Less than 30 % of Dalit children are reported to be in school.<sup>v</sup>

80 % of Dalit children experience discrimination in admission to school,<sup>vi</sup>

30% of Dalit students experienced abuse or hatred from their classmates and others, including teachers.<sup>vii</sup>

94 percent of Dalits have no linkage with any political parties.<sup>viii</sup>

4 % are involved in their local political unit, but they have no role in decision-making.<sup>ix</sup>

8 % have experienced harassment when voting.<sup>x</sup>

## Caste and gender justice

66 % of Bangladeshi women are married before the age of 18. There are no separate numbers for Dalits, but many Dalit girls are forcibly married as 10-12 year-olds.<sup>xi</sup>

Only 5.9% of Dalit girls complete secondary level education.<sup>xii</sup>

## Business and human rights

59 % of Dalits faced discrimination in their workplace as a result of their caste identity.<sup>xiii</sup>

40 % were subjected to 'untouchability' practices.<sup>xiv</sup>

## Access to justice

39 % of Dalits face violence due to their caste identity, yet rarely report it to the police.<sup>xv</sup>

66% say that they do not seek assistance from police at all.<sup>xvi</sup>

47% of those who sought police assistance did not get justice.<sup>xvii</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> <https://idsn.org/bangladesh-millions-of-dalits-need-water-and-sanitation/>

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- iii <https://idsn.org/bangladesh-millions-of-dalits-need-water-and-sanitation/>
- iv [https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report-\\_UPR\\_Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf](https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report-_UPR_Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf)
- v <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Caste-and-Gender-Justice-Low-Res2.pdf>
- vi <http://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/IDSN-briefing-note-Bangladesh-2015.pdf>
- vii <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report- UPR Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>
- viii <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report- UPR Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>
- ix <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report- UPR Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>
- x <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report- UPR Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>
- xi <http://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/CEDAW-65th-session-alternative-report-by-IDSN-and-BDERM-October-2016.pdf>
- xii <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report- UPR Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>
- xiii [https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report-\\_UPR\\_Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf](https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report-_UPR_Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf)
- xiv [https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report-\\_UPR\\_Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf](https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report-_UPR_Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf)
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- xvii <https://idsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/NGO-report- UPR Dalit-rights-in-Bangladesh-2017.pdf>